

## Fort Oglethorpe Municipal Court

## **Updated Court Procedures in Response to COVID-19**

The Fort Oglethorpe Municipal Court will resume in-person hearings on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Pursuant to the Judicial Emergency Order of the Georgia Supreme Court, the recommendations set forth by Governor Brian Kemp and the Centers for Disease Control, our Court has implemented the following procedures.

- 1) The Fort Oglethorpe Court will always remain open to our citizens. Based on the size of our courtroom, we are able to accommodate no more than 10 persons, plus staff, at one time to maintain the six foot distancing recommended by the CDC. Courtroom seating has been marked to maintain this distance. Flow of traffic inside the Court building will be restricted to allow for six feet of distancing between all parties.
- 2) All persons who have pending cases are encouraged to only bring their attorney or if a defendant is under 21 years of age, a parent, to the courtroom.
- 3) Each person will check in at security in the front of the Court building. Each defendant will be asked to provide their name and a cell phone number. If space is not available in the courtroom, they will be asked to return to their vehicle until space is available. Each person who enters the Court building will be subject to a temperature check and/or screening questionnaire. Hand sanitizer will be provided for use before entering the building and outside the courtroom.
- 4) All persons entering the courtroom will be asked to wear a face covering.
- **5)** Any person who has a temperature over 100.4 degrees or who is ill will not be permitted to enter the courtroom and will be rescheduled for a later court date.
- **6)** Defendants who require an interpreter for court proceedings will be asked to contact the Clerk's office prior to their court date.
- 7) Any individual with a pending case who is considered a part of a vulnerable population should contact the Court Clerk's Office to discuss arrangements for their case.

Judge Winston Webb